

San Juan Public Lands People

Spring/Summer 2011

News for San Juan Public Lands
employees, retirees & partners

Fuels Reduction Efforts Buffer Durango's West Side

DURANGO - By May of this year, wildfires had already burned more acres in southwestern Colorado than the entire fire season last year. The Durango Interagency Fire Dispatch Center reports that the fire season started a full month earlier, and 90 percent of those fires were human caused.

Our recent moisture may mitigate the chances that this early and active wildfire season continues, but whatever the fire season holds in store, expanded fuels-reduction efforts on the west side of Durango should offer a buffer zone for the wildland/urban interface.

"Federal, state and local governments are working with private developers and subdivisions to manage vegetation over a large landscape to protect the public, firefighters, communities and ecosystems," said Craig Goodell, San Juan Fire Mitigation/Education Specialist.

The BLM and Colorado Division of Wildlife, which jointly manage 13,442 acres of state and federal lands in the Perins Peak Management Area, joined forces last year to create fuel breaks and improve wildlife habitat west of Durango.

In addition to hydro-mowing, ponderosa pine seedlings were planted for revegetation in some areas.

In the Twin Buttes development area, the Durango City Council included a Forest Management Plan as a Condition of Approval for annexation.

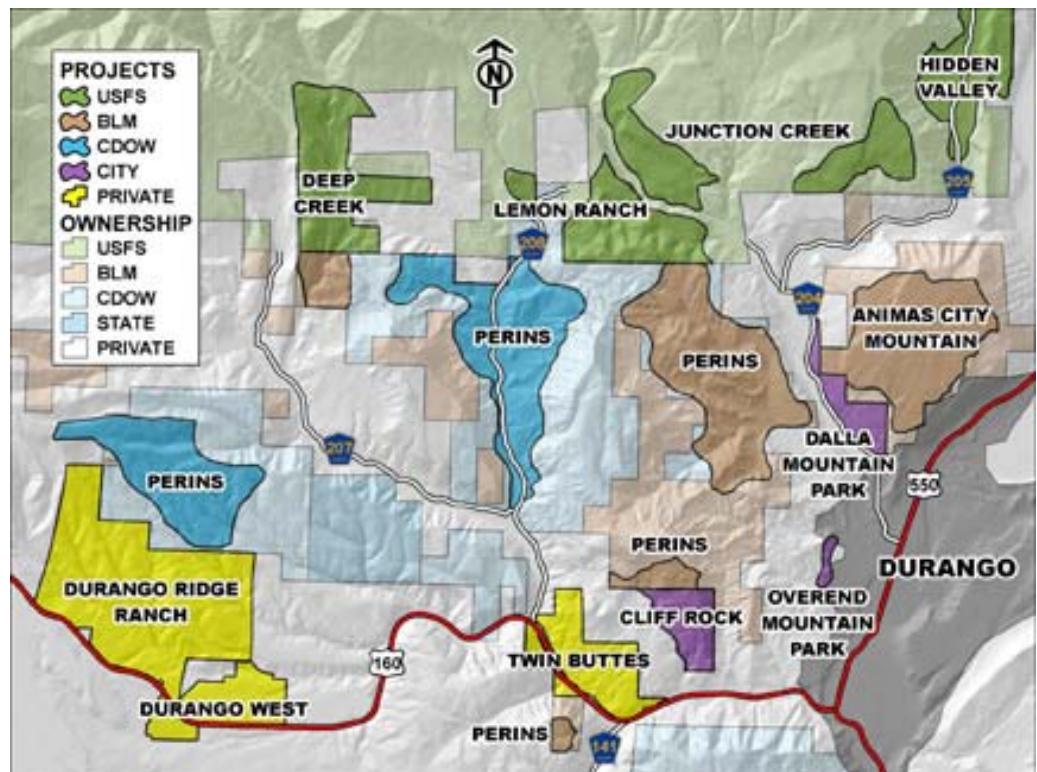
Twin Buttes is responsible for managing home sites, and the city is responsible for open space parcels. The city has already completed some fuels reduction

in its open space and plans to treat more in the future.

The City and Twin Buttes also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM and Division of Wildlife to pool resources for future fuels reduction. That agreement grants the BLM a perpetual easement across private property and municipal open space to access federal lands for agreed-upon projects.

Other subdivisions near Durango are following suit. After being rated high on the La Plata County Fire Risk Communities of Concern Map, Durango Ridge Ranch residents have completed 900 hours of defensible space projects.

(continued on page 2)



Map by Carey Newman



San Juan National Forest, BLM San Juan Center and
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument



PUBLIC LANDS CENTER NEWS

(Continued from page 1)

Durango Ridge also thinned vegetation along subdivision roads to improve evacuation and firefighting access. The nearby Durango West 1 and 2 subdivisions have developed Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

"Plans are done through a collaborative process, which can really bring a community together working towards the common goal," said Pam Wilson, Program Director for FireWise of Southwest Colorado. "Actions include revising restrictive covenants, adding water sources, enlarging turnarounds on dead-end roads, clearing rights-of-way or improving signage."

The USFS and BLM have also reduced fuels on public lands in Hidden Valley, Junction Creek, Deep Creek, Falls Creek, Tripp Gulch and on Animas City Mountain.

The City of Durango has hand thinned Dalla and Overend Mountain Parks, and many private subdivisions and landowners are following suit.

Cumulatively, the efforts are beginning to link together an important buffer of protection against destruc-

tive wildfires around Durango.

"Wildfires don't respect property boundaries," Goodell says. "It takes collaborative efforts like these, across multiple jurisdictions and ownerships, to effectively mitigate wildfire hazards."

- Ann Bond



Photo courtesy Colo State Forest Service

Results of fuels mitigation last year in the Perins Peak State Wildlife Management Area.

Resource Advisory Committee Approves Projects

DURANGO - The San Juan National Forest Secure Rural Schools Act Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), which was created last year, has approved several natural-resource projects to benefit lands and resources of the National Forest and rural economies.

Funding is made possible by the reauthorized Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, which funds projects to restore watersheds, decommission or maintain roads and trails, remove noxious weeds or improve forest health. Projects can take place on or adjacent to National Forest lands.

Proposals meeting the legislation's intent are reviewed by the RAC twice a year, which then recommends projects to the USFS for funding. The RAC is made up of 15 citizen members and three replacement members.

San Juan PLC Associate Center Manager Bill Dunkelberger is the Designated Federal Officer, and Dolores County Commissioner Ernie Williams is Chairman.

RAC members include citizens and officials from Archuleta, Dolores and La Plata counties, which are the counties in southwestern Colorado that opted to be a part of the program. Members recreational interests, elected offices, federal permit holders, environmental organizations, archaeological/historical interests and the public at large.

SRS RAC Projects funded in 2010 and 2011:

- Road maintenance - Piedra and Four Mile roads, Archuleta County
- Road maintenance - Dolores-Norwood and West Fork roads, Dolores County
- Trails maintenance - Log Chutes Trail System in La Plata County
- Road maintenance - La Plata Canyon Road, La Plata County
- Fire Mitigation - Upper Pine River Fire Protection District, La Plata County

More information is available online at:
www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanjuan/home.

- Ann Bond

PUBLIC LANDS CENTER NEWS



Liz Detailed into Facilities

DURANGO - Liz Yo, USFS Rocky Mountain Regional Office Architect, is filling in as San Juan Acting Facility Engineer. Her main priorities are condition surveys for the top 10 engineering facility projects.

Liz has worked for the USFS for two years. Prior to that, she worked as a Licensed Architect in the State of Colorado for 20 years. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Colorado at Denver.

Liz and her husband, Joonho, have two Bernese mountain dogs named Friday and Guinness. Liz enjoys running, co-ed soccer, hiking, skiing, walking the dogs and travel.

"I am excited to experience work at the Forest level to gain a better understanding of the Forest Service and what we do," she says.

- Ann Bond



Beth Stationed Out of PLC

DURANGO - Beth Spencer, USFS Resource Ordering and Statusing System Team Program Specialist, an interagency computerized wildfire dispatching system, is now working out of the PLC. During her federal career, Beth worked for the Show Low and Alamogordo Interagency dispatch centers. She also worked in administration, fire dispatch and fee collection in National Parks from Virginia to California.

Beth holds a Bachelor's degree in English from Arizona State University. She and husband, Cliff Spencer, current Mesa Verde National Park Superintendent, have a daughter, Lily, 16. Beth grew up in National Parks and enjoys hiking, travel, knitting and gardening.

"I look forward to the challenge of a virtual position, but still like the day-to-day interaction of individuals at the office, so I really appreciate the PLC providing me with office space," Beth says. "Most of my meetings are by Internet and conference calls, so I'm on the phone a lot, but I hope to keep my dispatching skills current by helping out in Dispatch if they get busy."

- Ann Bond



Dee Retires

DURANGO - Dee Lewis, San Juan Public Lands BLM Budget Analyst for the past decade, retired in April after a 30-year federal career.

Dee moved to the BLM San Juan Resource Area 24 years ago.

Dee looks forward to camping, hiking, boating and enjoying her grandchildren. She and husband, Randy, also retired from the BLM, plan to spend winters in Phoenix and summer in Durango.

"I have enjoyed working with everyone over the years," Dee says.

Dee's retirement has left an opening on the Durango Federal Employees' Association (DFEA) Board. Anyone interested in helping out with the social committee should contact Liz Haydon, DFEA Vice President, at 970 385-1290, or Alan Peterson, DFEA Secretary Treasurer, at 970 3581258.



PUBLIC LANDS CENTER NEWS



San Juan Scores Micro Grants

DENVER - The USFS Rocky Mountain Region awarded two Sustainable Operations micro-grants this year to the San Juan NF. Selections were made based on innovation and measurable improvements.

Jay Godson, San Juan Interagency Hotshot Superintendent, received a waste-reduction grant of \$4,715 to purchase rechargeable batteries, chargers and solar panels. The grant is funding a rechargeable battery program for the hand-held radio system used by the Hotshots.

"So far the batteries have worked very well," Jay says. "Over the course of a two-week fire assignment, I have not had to use a single AA battery for a radio. This resulted in between 90 to 130 batteries not going into the waste stream."

Laurie Robison, Columbine Administrative Support Assistant, received a water-conservation grant of \$5,000 to reduce water use at the Columbine Public Lands

Office. The grant will fund drought-resistant landscaping at the offices in Bayfield. Columbine Ecologist Gretchen Fitzgerald is helping coordinate the project. Columbine employees expect to begin work early this summer.

"Native plants will be used to create an attractive welcoming space for visitors," Laurie says. "The ultimate goal is to have a landscaped area that needs little to no water, yet remains beautiful and representative of native vegetation."

The San Juan's projects were two of 11 projects awarded across Region 2, which are estimated in total to save 621,000 gallons of water, reduce agency energy use by 11,600 kWh, reduce gasoline by 400 gallons and eliminate 500 pounds of batteries from reaching landfills. Each of the winning projects had to include matching funds and local resources to accomplish savings that go beyond the funding provided from the micro-grant.

- Ann Bond



Christy is New Admin Clerk

DURANGO - Christy Garrou is the San Juan's new Administrative Support Clerk. She comes to us from USDA Rural Development in Aztec, New Mexico, where she was an Area Technician. Her duties in the PLC will include handling the mail, supplies, personal property and records management.

Christy was a BLM/USFS Biological Technician in Torrey, Utah, in 2009, and served as an Artist in Residence at the San Juan NF Aspen Guard Station in 2006.

Christy holds a Bachelor's degree in Commercial Art from Appalachian State University in North Carolina and worked seasonally for a decade for the National Park Service in interpretation and photography.

She enjoys hiking skiing, photography, painting and visiting family. She and her husband, Don Corbeil, have two dogs, Luska and Dotti.

"I'm excited to work for public lands again, especially for the San Juan," she says.

- Ann Bond

And Baby Makes Three

Congratulations to Clay & Brenna Kampf, the proud parents of a new baby boy.

Reed Kampf came into the world at 6:48 a.m. on May 14th at 21" long, 8 lbs.

Clay is aUSFS Fisheries Trainee in the PLC, and Brenna is a BLM Legal Instruments Examiner.



FIRE NEWS

Kit is at the Helm of Dispatch



DURANGO - Kathleen "Kit" Kemsley is the new Durango Fire Interagency Dispatch Center Manager. She comes to us from the Lolo NF, where she was the Missoula Interagency Dispatch Center Manager.

As manager of the Dispatch Center at the PLC, she'll be coordinating response to wildland fires within our jurisdiction, and supporting extended attack and large fire operations.

Kit's federal career includes work as Supervisory Dispatcher for the Gila NF in New Mexico, Dispatch Center Manager for the BLM Vale District in Oregon, Dispatcher for the BLM National Interagency Fire Center in Idaho and Initial Attack Dispatcher for the BLM Albuquerque District in New Mexico.

Her first job in fire was in 1991 as Initial Attack Dispatcher for the State of Alaska Division of Forestry.

Kit has also worked as a National Park Service ranger at Grand Canyon and Denali National Parks and for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Before getting into the wildland fire field, she worked as a 911 dispatcher for the Alaska State Troopers.

Kit holds a Bachelor's degree in Geography from the University of California at Berkeley. She and husband, Brian, retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

have a dog, Dina. They enjoy motorcycles, camping, world travel, hot springs and running. "I'm excited to take on the challenge of leading the dispatch center," Kit says. "This fire season has already started out with higher than normal activity so I intend to 'hit the ground running.'"

- Ann Bond



Justin is Assistant Dispatch Manager

DURANGO - Justin Moore, Interagency Dispatcher for the BLM since 2008, has been named Assistant Manager for the San Juan Interagency Fire Dispatch Center. He'll be working with interagency and extended attack wildfire efforts, and helping with logistics.

Before coming to the San Juan, Justin was an Engine Crew Member and Assistant Engine Foreman for the Ashley NF in Utah. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Southern Utah University.

Justin enjoys woodworking, fishing, playing the guitar and travel.

"I'm excited about the new position and the challenges that come with it," Justin says. "I am looking forward to working more with people in Durango and surrounding areas."

- Ann Bond



FIRE NEWS



Jay is New Super

DURANGO - Jay Godson, former Assistant Superintendent and Squad Boss for the San Juan Interagency Hotshot Crew, has been named Superintendent of the Shots.

Jay came to the San Juan in 2004 from the Pike NF, where he was a senior firefighter for the Pike Interagency Hotshots. Prior to that, he was assistant engine foreman and seasonal fuels crew member for the Payette NF. He also served as a crew member for the Baker River Hotshots.

The San Juan Interagency Hotshots are made up of 20 career and seasonal USFS firefighters, who respond to wildfires across the country from April to October. The San Juan Hotshots crew is one of 93 interagency hotshot crews sponsored across the country by the USFS, National Park Service, BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and states.

Jay holds a degree in Forestry from Colorado State University. He enjoys mountain biking, powder skiing, and float trips. He is married to Esther Godson, San Juan Helitack Squad Leader.

"We're available 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the season, and typically spend most of the summer on the road," Jay says. "We respond to wildland fire incidents, but are also available for other risk assignments." - Ann Bond



Esther Leading Helitack

DURANGO - Esther Godson, former Assistant Air Tanker Base Manager, is the San Juan's new Helitack Squad Leader. She's now assisting with management and oversight of the Durango National Helitack Crew.

Esther came to the San Juan from the Price Valley Heli-Rappel Crew, where she worked for nine years as a Squad Leader on the Payette NF. Prior to that, she spent two years working on engine and hand crews on the Helena NF. She has also served as a Lead Instructor at the Great Basin Training Unit and Fire Use Training Academy.

Esther holds a Bachelor's degree in Forestry and Natural Resource Management, Concentration Fire Science, from Colorado State University. She also holds a Master's degree in Forestry and Fire Science from CSU.

In her spare time, Esther enjoys humbling herself in any outdoor activity with her husband, Jay, San Juan Interagency Hotshot Superintendent, and following their border collie, Folly. - Ann Bond



Kelly Helping with Helitack

DURANGO - Kelly Rudger is the San Juan's new Assistant Helitack Supervisor. Previously he was the Assistant Base Manager for the Frazier Rappel Crew.

Kelly has also worked as a hotshot, hand crew member, and in Alaska with the BLM. He holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science from Oregon State University.

"I'm excited and eager for a new opportunity and improving the helicopter program in Durango with my background and experience," Kelly says.

- Ann Bond



COLUMBINE NEWS



Legz is Leavin'

BAYFIELD - Shawna Legarza, Columbine Fire Management Officer since 2008, leaves in June to become Fire Chief for the San Bernardino NF in California. Shawna has been on the San Juan for a decade, first as Superintendent of the San Juan Interagency Hotshot Crew, then as District FMO.

Her 23-year federal career includes serving as Grand Junction Air Center Manager, Superintendent of the BLM North Star Fire Crew in Alaska, BLM Assistant Fire Staff Officer and Fire Suppression Specialist in Alaska, Black Mountain Interagency Hotshot crewmember, and BLM Engine and Helitack crewmember in Nevada.

Her career highlights include work on the 9/11 World Trade Center disaster and receiving the USFS National Fire Plan Award for the San Juan Interagency Hotshots and USDA Employee Spotlight for work with the Green Veterans.

Shawna holds degrees in Psychology, Kinesiology, and Wildland Fire Management and Exercise Physiology/Education.

- Ann Bond



Beth is Back

BAYFIELD - Beth Jones is back at the Columbine Office as the new Range Management Specialist. She returns after working for the past four years on the Pagosa Ranger District as Support Services Specialist.

Beth holds a Bachelor's degree in Botany from Eastern Illinois University and a Masters in Forestry from the University of Southern Illinois. Prior to her work in Pagosa, she was Columbine's Fuels Forestry Technician for three years.

During her career, Beth has also worked at the BLM Craig Dispatch Center, on the Durango Helitack Crew and for the San Juan's Fire Ecology crew, as well as working three seasons in fire at Zion National Park. Beth and husband, Jesse, who works for the Pagosa RD, have two children, Kaia and Samuel. In addition to herding kids, permittees and riding horses, Beth enjoys skating with the Pagosa Roller girls, camping and running.

- Stan Sparks



Cindy Heads for the Hills

BAYFIELD - Cindy Hockelberg, Columbine Lands and Realty Specialist, is heading to South Dakota and Nebraska to work in a shared lands position for the Black Hills NF and Nebraska National Grasslands.

Cindy Hockelberg, who also has handled lands projects for the Pagosa office, has worked on the San Juan for the past 11 years, most recently as Acting Columbine District Ranger/Manager during Matt Janowiak's absence.

Cindy says she looks forward to exploring new country with her constant companion, Nellie.

"I sure appreciate the efforts and dedication of many employees on the San Juan," she says.

- Ann Bond



New Silverton Office Open

SILVERTON - The San Juan's Silverton Office has moved to 1428 Greene Street next door to the fire station. It serves as both a seasonal visitor center and administrative field office for the USFS and BLM. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekends through September. San Juan Mountains Association staffers Bob Boeder and Barry McAlister (that's Barry with me in the photo at left) help answer questions, and SJMA sells maps and guide books. Advice on how to enjoy the area's mining heritage, camping, hiking, fishing, four wheeling, ecology, flora and fauna, etc. is free.

- Ron Dewitz, USFS Silverton Visitor Information Services

COLUMBINE NEWS

BLM Scores National Register Listings

SILVERTON - The San Juan received three new National Historic Register listings this spring for historical sites on BLM lands in San Juan County. The ghost town of Animas Forks is now a National Register District, and the Minnie Gulch Cabin and Placer Gulch Boarding House are now National Register sites.

The National Historic Register of Historic Places is the official federal listing of sites and structures significant in American history. The San Juan's nominations were submitted by the BLM, San Juan Mountains Association (SJMA) and Colorado State Historical Fund.

Animas Forks, an abandoned mining town, is a popular stop on the BLM Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway. Today, nine standing buildings date back to the initial boom of hard-rock mining. BLM is partnering with the Mountain Studies Institute to apply for a State Historical Society grant to stabilize five of the buildings. Animas Forks is also on the San Juan County Register of Historic Places.

The Minnie Gulch site includes a residential structure, blacksmith shop - all dates back to the 1880s. The site is monitored by SJMA site stewards, and BLM hopes to conduct stabilization as funds become available.



The Minnie Gulch cabin.

past and our sense of place," she says.

"Surviving log cabins with architectural integrity are particularly rare," says Julie Coleman, San Juan Heritage Lead. "Together, the elements form a cohesive small mining residential and industrial complex that has remained unchanged except for natural deterioration."

The Pacific Boardinghouse is a wood-frame boarding house with a mine tunnel overlooking Placer Gulch in the headwaters of the Animas River. The structure dates back to the early 1900s, coinciding with the construction of the Gold Prince aerial tramway. The BLM has conducted extensive rehabilitation of the building, which will help preserve it.

"The mining heritage of the San Juans is fading away," Coleman says. "Every year sites are literally falling down due to weathering, neglect and heavy visitation."

"Sometimes, history literally 'walks' away, when treasure seekers claim a piece of history for themselves. For the local community and thousands of visitors to the BLM lands in San Juan County, preservation is increasingly important as a vital link to our

- Ann Bond



The Duncan House, Animas Forks.

Kids4Trees

VALLECITO - Almost 300 students from Bayfield Elementary School planted 900 ponderosa pine seedlings over two days during Kids4Trees Days at Pine Point Campground. The event was sponsored by the San Juan Mountains Association, San Juan Public Lands, and Kids4Trees.



The effort will help rehabilitate forests burned on the east side of the reservoir in the 2002 Missionary Ridge Fire.

Columbine Wilderness Ranger Anne Dal Veraias and a 5th-grade student from Bayfield Elementary School plant a ponderosa pine seedling this spring.



The Pacific Boardinghouse.

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Read this and past issues online on the 'About Us' page of our Web site:

www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan

PAGOSA NEWS



Ryan is New Engine Captain

PAGOSA SPRINGS - Ryan Vincent is a new Engine Captain on the Pagosa RD. He comes to us from the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area where he worked a detail as Engine Captain.

Since 2003, Ryan has worked on engine crews and a heli-rappel crew in Region 6. He holds an Associate's Degree in Forestry Central Oregon Community College and enjoys spending time with his wife, Katie and two children, River, 6, and Nora, 4, as well as mountain biking and snowboarding.

- Brandy Richardson



(Above) Dick Hamilton
(Below) Tom Schoemig



Volunteers at the Front Desk

PAGOSA SPRINGS - The Pagosa RD has new smiling faces at the front desk this summer helping with visitor information services.

Volunteers include Dick Hamilton, who moved to Pagosa Springs from Texas after retiring as vice president for a mail order fruit company. He enjoys fishing, ATV's and snowmobiling, and holds degrees in game and wildlife and marketing.

Lynne and Rick Stinchfield enjoy hiking, gardening, reading and writing, and interacting with fellow hikers. Rick is retired from educational administration at the University of Northern Iowa. Lynne retired after selling an antique store. They also volunteer at Capitol Reef National Park in Utah, and Lynn at the Pagosa Spring Public Library.

Tom Schoemig is retired from the structural design of power plants. He is now owner/operator of *Be Our Guest Bed and Breakfast* with his wife, Pam. He enjoys hiking, snowmobiling, skiing and helping out at the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center.

Kris Minor is a retired school counselor from Michigan now living in Pagosa Springs with her husband.

- Brandy Richardson



(Above) The Stinchfield's
(Below) Kris Minor



About 30 conference participants braved a spring snow storm to visit Chimney Rock during the conference. Unfortunately the view of the pinnacles was obscured.

Chimney Rock holds Conference

PAGOSA SPRINGS - The *Chimney Rock in the Chacoan World Conference* was held in late April, featuring presentations on recent archaeological research and archaeo-astronomy at Chimney Rock, Chacoan Outliers, and settlement patterns within the Northern San Juan Basin.

A group of 95 professional archaeologists, site interpreters, and interested members of the public met to discuss the significance of Chimney Rock and work towards improved stewardship. The conference provided a good opportunity to discuss future avenues of research. The group plans to publish the conference proceedings (pending funding).

The Conference was sponsored by the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

- Wendy Sutton

DOLORES NEWS



Connie Filling in as Acting Ranger

DOLORES - Connie Clementson will be serving the Acting BLM Dolores Field Office Manager/San Juan National Forest Dolores District Ranger at the Dolores Public Lands Office for most of the summer.

Connie has been the Grand Valley District Ranger for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NFs in Grand Junction since 1999, where she manages 600,000 acres of National Forest lands, including interagency fire operations shared with the BLM.

Connie began her USFS career on the Bears Ears RD of the Medicine Bow/Routt NFs in 1983 as a Range Technician. Following that, she worked on the Med Bow/Routt in recreation, lands, range wildlife, watershed, minerals and special uses.

Connie was raised on Colorado's Front Range and holds a Bachelor's degree from Utah State University with a major in Range and minor in Soils. She and husband, Clayton, have two boys, Cole, 20 and Clay, 18.

- Ann Bond



This Tracy is New in O&G

DOLORES - Tracy Perfors is new at the DPLO working as a Natural Resource Specialist in oil and gas regulation. She comes from the Pike & San Isabel National Forests where she was a Forestry Technician and coordinated the National Visitor Use Monitoring Program and assisted with rangeland and wildlife projects.

Her federal career began with a four-year stint in the U.S. Army in 2002. Since then, she has worked for the U.S. Geological Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Biological Science Technician, and most recently with the USFS.

Tracy recently received her Master's degree in Rangeland Ecosystems Science from Colorado State University. She and her fiancé, Hallinston Robins, enjoy hiking and sightseeing.

"I've heard only great things about the San Juan Public Lands Center and am excited to join the team," she says.

- Ann Bond

AHC/CANM NEWS

Solar Array Dedicated

DOLORES - The BLM joined with local community members in May to celebrate completion of a new solar array at the Anasazi Heritage Center. The system uses 400 panels to produce up to 60 percent of the power needed for the 40,000-square-foot building. It has already exceeded expectations, producing up to 95 percent of the electricity needed on sunny days.

"President Obama has set a goal for the country to get 25 percent of its energy from renewable resources by the year 2025," said BLM Colorado State Director Helen Hankins, who attended the ceremony. "What has happened right here sets the standard for this part of Colorado."

The system does not store reserve power in batteries, but instead feeds excess power it creates into the local power grid of Empire Electric Association. "This project is offsetting energy produced by coal and other resources," said Empire Electric General Manager Neal Stephens.

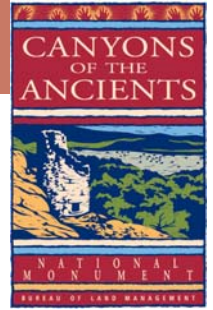
The life cycle for the solar panels, located near the center's entrance and its roof, is expected to be about 25 years. The system was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

- Shannon Borders



Empire Electric Association General Manager Neal Stephens and BLM State Director Helen Hankins cutting the ribbon.

AHC/CANM NEWS



Roads Scholars pause from their work in the AHC basement in February.

Roads Scholars Help Out

DOLORES - Participants from the *Roads Scholars* (formerly *Elderhostel*) Program inventoried 23 boxes of Ancestral Puebloan artifacts at the Anasazi Heritage Center this spring. The program was an educational service trip offered through the nonprofit McElmo Canyon Research Institute.

The group counted thousands of potsherds and rehoused them in archival bags, learning the basics of artifact curation. The artifacts were collected during the Dolores Archaeological Program (DAP), one of the largest archaeological projects in the country. The DAP recorded 1,600 archaeological and historic sites in southwest Colorado prior to the construction of McPhee Reservoir. More than 1.5 million DAP artifacts are curated at the Anasazi Heritage Center, which was built to house the collections.

The *Road Scholars* program took place in association with a two-year grant for more than \$100,000 that McElmo Canyon Research Institute, in partnership with the Heritage Center, received from the Colorado State Historical Fund to improve DAP collections preservation and database access.

Information about future *Roads Scholars* programs at the Anasazi Heritage Center is available at www.roadsscholar.org.

- Erica Olsen



Vince Moves Over to CANM

DOLORES - Vince MacMillan, former Dolores Public Lands Office Archaeologist, is now Lead Archaeologist for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument overseeing legal compliance, cultural resource protection, archaeological research and tribal and interagency consultation for the Monument.

Vince began his federal career with the National Park Service in 1992, moving to the Dolores Office in 2002, first as a USFS archaeologist, then as a BLM archaeologist. He holds Bachelor's degrees in Anthropology and English from the University of Nebraska and a Master's in Anthropology from the University of Wyoming.

Vince and wife, Cara, Dolores Public Lands Ecologist, have a 1½-year-old son, Emmett, a dog and two cats.

"I'm excited to be working with such an amazing group of co-workers, researchers and volunteers, especially within the context of the most amazing archaeology around," Vince says.

- Ann Bond



And This Tracy is in D.C.

DOLORES - Tracy Murphy, AHC Museum Specialist/Assistant Curator is serving a detail in Washington, D.C. as Acting BLM National Curator and NAGPRA Coordinator. Her role is to assist BLM state archaeologists and non-federal repositories with BLM collections, and to help with the BLM cultural budget, museum property and NAGPRA.

Tracey began her BLM career in 2001 at the AHC. Prior to that, she worked at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff and University of Colorado Natural History Museum.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Colorado University and a Master's in Anthropology and Archaeology from Northern Arizona University.

Her partner, Scott Clow, is holding down the homestead in her absence, taking care of the cats and dogs and continuing home renovation projects.

"Tracy brings an understanding of museum property management from a variety of perspectives," says Richard Hanes, BLM Chief of the Division of Cultural and Paleontological Resources and Tribal Coordination.

- Victoria Atkins